

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

Replace Figure 1 with the accompanying new Figure 1.

REMARKS

The necessary new drawing of Figure 1 is submitted herewith in lieu of the original.

The abstract and specification area amended as needed so as to place this application in condition for disposal at the time of the next Official Action.

The claims have been amended as to form, in respect of the matters kindly noted by the Examiner.

Claim 1 has also been amended so as to sharpen its definition of the invention relative to the applied reference.

Reconsideration is accordingly respectfully requested, for the rejection of certain of the claims as anticipated by Phipps U.S. Patent No. 3,258,007.

In PHIPPS, as seen in Figure 1, there is a central region characterized by drill buttons 25 disposed at various distances from the axis of the drill bit, but all lying in a plane perpendicular to that axis. As seen in Figure 2 of PHIPPS, there is a circular ring of drill buttons 26 stepped back from the drill buttons 25 along the axis of the drill bit and all arranged equidistantly from the axis of rotation of the drill bit.

An arrangement such as in PHIPPS would not have the centering action of the drill bit that is enjoyed by the present invention.

In the present invention, the drill buttons are arranged in a conical pattern as best seen in Figure 3. Certain of these drill buttons (at least one in each of at least three segments 18) being equidistant from the axis of rotation.

In addition, in each segment 18, there are other drill buttons 16 arranged on the conical segment at different distances from the axis of rotation.

This conical arrangement ensures centering of the drill bit during drilling. This arrangement has no counterpart in PHIPPS.

As the claims now in the case bring out these distinctions with ample particularity, it is believed that they are all patentable, and reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX:

The Appendix includes the following items:

- new Abstract of the Disclosure
- replacement drawing sheet for Figure 1